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|------------------------------|------------------------|--|---------------------|-----------|
| Notic of Allowability | Application No. | | Applicant(s) | |
| | 10/663,810 | | HAGIUDA ET AL. | |
| | Examiner | | Art Unit | |
| | William B. Perkey | | 2851 | <i>AW</i> |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondenc address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the papers filed 04-22-04.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-12.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 22 April 2004 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date <u>09-17-03</u> | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |

W B Perkey

William B. Perkey
Primary Examiner
Art Unit: 2851

Examiner's Amendment

Application No. 10/663,810

the threshold value is set higher if the detector detects that the auxiliary battery apparatus is mounted than the threshold value set when the detector does not detect that the auxiliary battery apparatus is mounted.

5. (Currently Amended) A flash system with an auxiliary battery, comprising:

a flash apparatus ~~according to any of claims 1 through 4~~ that comprises a light emission unit that emits light with an electric charge stored at a main capacitor; a battery chamber in which an internal battery constituting a source battery is loaded; a mounting unit at which an auxiliary battery apparatus is detachably mounted; and a detector that detects whether the auxiliary battery apparatus is mounted; and

~~an auxiliary battery apparatus according to any of claims 1 through 4~~ the auxiliary apparatus having loaded therein an external battery to be connected in series with the internal battery, wherein:

the internal battery and the external battery are each a cylindrical battery;

an internal battery space where a plurality of cylindrical batteries are loaded side-by-side in a row is provided at the battery chamber; and

an external battery space where a single cylindrical battery constituting the external battery is loaded so as to allow an axial center of the external battery to extend along a direction of the row in which the plurality of cylindrical batteries are arranged is formed at the auxiliary battery apparatus.

6. (Currently Amended) An auxiliary battery apparatus detachably mounted at an electric apparatus, comprising:

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

1. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The primary reason for allowance of claims 1-5 is the claim 1 and 5 limitation for a flash apparatus having detecting means detecting mounting of an auxiliary battery apparatus. Claim 5 is also allowable because of the limitation that the single cylindrical external battery of the auxiliary battery apparatus is loaded to allow its axial center to extend along a direction of the row in which the plurality of cylindrical batteries are arranged. The primary reason for allowance of claims 6-12 is the claim 6 and 11 limitation that a battery loading unit having an external battery is detachably mounted at the electric apparatus in place of the lid of the battery chamber of the electric device and the lid is attached to the battery loading unit concealing the battery. Claims 11 and 12 are allowable because of the claim limitation enumerated in the previous sentence and because of the limitation enumerated above with respect to claim 5, both of which are found in claim 11.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

The application has been amended as follows:

The word - - apparatus - - has been inserted after the first occurrence of the word "battery" in line 8 of claim 5.

Telephone Numbers

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to William B. Perkey whose telephone number is (571) 272-2126. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday 7:00am-5:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edward Lefkowitz can be reached on (571) 272-2180. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



William B. Perkey
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2851

WBP:wbp